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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-fifth session
Items 32 and 38 of the preliminary list*
THE SITUATION IN KAMPUCHEA
QUESTION OF PEACE, STABILITY AND
CO-OPERATION IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-fifth year

Letter dated 29 May 1990 from the representatives of China, France, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Representatives of our Governments met in New York on 25 and 26 May 1990 for a fourth session of discussions on the modalities of a comprehensive political settlement of the Cambodia conflict.

We have the honour to enclose the text of the summary of conclusions agreed to at that session (see annex), and should be grateful if you would arrange for it to be circulated, with the present letter, as a document of the General Assembly, under items 32 and 38 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) DING Yuanhong
Chargé d'affaires a.i. and Deputy
Permanent Representative of China
to the United Nations

(Signed) Yuli M. VORONTSOV
Permanent Representative of the
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
to the United Nations

(Signed) Thomas R. PICKERING
Permanent Representative of the
United States of America to the
United Nations

(Signed) Pierre-Louis BLANC
Permanent Representative of
France to the United Nations

(Signed) Crispin TICKELL
Permanent Representative of the
United Kingdom of Great Britain
and Northern Ireland to the
United Nations

* A/45/50.

ANNEX

Summary of conclusions

The Five Permanent Members of the United Nations Security Council conducted the fourth in their series of discussions on Cambodia on 25 and 26 May 1990 in New York. At the start of the meeting, United Nations Under-Secretary-General Rafeeuddin Ahmed briefed the Five on the results of the visits made by United Nations fact-finding teams to Cambodia to seek information on technical questions raised at the March meeting of the Five in Paris. The Five expressed appreciation to Under-Secretary-General Ahmed for his important contribution to their discussions, and welcomed the intention of the Secretariat to dispatch further fact-finding missions as necessary. They agreed to remain in close contact with the United Nations Secretariat on these matters through their Permanent Missions in New York.

The Five reviewed the progress achieved to date in their efforts to bring about a comprehensive political settlement of the Cambodian problem. They reaffirmed their adherence to the principles agreed upon in Paris on 15 and 16 January 1990. They also reaffirmed their agreement to the points elaborated at their subsequent meetings held in New York on 11 and 12 February and in Paris on 12 and 13 March 1990 on the modalities of a settlement involving an enhanced United Nations role, including the creation of a United Nations transition authority in Cambodia, which under this approach would be responsible, inter alia, for the organization and conduct of free and fair elections.

The Five noted other recent positive steps towards peace in Cambodia. They also welcomed the prospect of a meeting at Tokyo in early June to bring together representatives of Cambodian parties and they expressed the hope that this dialogue would be transformed into a continuous process, in particular, through agreement to the formation of a supreme national council. The Five remain firmly convinced that only a comprehensive political settlement will bring lasting peace and stability to Cambodia. They therefore take the view that the efforts of all Governments and interested parties should be designed to achieve that objective, and should make possible at an early date the conditions necessary to reconvene the Paris Conference on Cambodia. To that end, the Five again consulted with representatives of other interested Governments.

In the light of these developments, the Five discussed alternative transitional arrangements involving varying degrees of exercise of authority by a supreme national council, which could include representatives of all shades of opinion in Cambodia. They also considered the implications of those alternatives for the necessary role to be played by the United Nations.

The Five reaffirmed that a comprehensive political settlement must include specific provisions, as follows:

(a) To ensure the verification of the withdrawal of all foreign forces and the cessation of external military assistance, a durable cease-fire, the regrouping

READEX FICHE

of the armed forces of the factions into designated cantonment areas, all under the control of an effective United Nations peace-keeping operation;

(b) To establish formally a supreme national council;

(c) To ensure free and fair elections for a constituent assembly under United Nations auspices;

(d) To enshrine the fundamental human rights and freedoms which the Cambodian people must enjoy, together with the necessary protections and guarantees;

(e) To provide a system of guarantees for the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and inviolability, neutrality and national unity of Cambodia.

These indispensable requirements for a comprehensive political settlement will be set out in more detail in working papers now under preparation by the Five. It is their intention that these documents should serve as a basis for discussion with representatives of the Cambodian parties.

Bearing in mind that co-operation among the Cambodian parties is essential to a successful transition, the Five agreed to invite representatives of the Cambodian parties to hold discussions with them during their next meeting, which will take place in Paris before the middle of July.

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Items 23, 28, 33, 34, 35, 41, 43, 82
and 111 of the preliminary list*

QUESTION OF PALESTINE

THE SITUATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA: THREATS TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY AND PEACE INITIATIVES

LAW OF THE SEA

POLICIES OF APARTHEID OF THE GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA

THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

LAUNCHING OF GLOBAL NEGOTIATIONS ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT

QUESTION OF NAMIBIA

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION

INTERNATIONAL ACTION TO COMBAT DRUG ABUSE AND ILLICIT TRAFFICKING

Letter dated 25 May 1990 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit the attached copy of the communiqué of the sixteenth meeting of the Standing Committee of Ministers responsible for Foreign Affairs of the Caribbean Community, held at Kingstown, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, on 7 and 8 May 1990, with the request that it be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under items 23, 28, 33, 34, 35, 41, 43, 82 and 111 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) James A. POMPEY
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

* A/45/50.

ANNEX

Communiqué of the sixteenth meeting of the Standing Committee of Ministers responsible for Foreign Affairs of the Caribbean Community

1. The Standing Committee of Ministers responsible for Foreign Affairs (SCMFA) of the Caribbean Community held its sixteenth meeting at Kingstown, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, on 7 and 8 May 1990. This was preceded by a preparatory meeting of officials on 3 and 4 May 1990. The meeting was attended by 10 of the 12 States comprising the membership of the Standing Committee. The Heads of Delegation were: Mr. Eric Challenger, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Antigua and Barbuda; Hon. E. Charles Carter, Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Bahamas; Senator the Hon. Harcourt Lewis, Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs, Barbados; Mr. Robert Leslie, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Belize; Cde. Rashleigh E. Jackson, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Guyana; Senator the Hon. David H. Coore, Q.C., Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, Jamaica; Dr. Saint Asyll Warner, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Saint Kitts and Nevis; Hon. E. Neville Cenac, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Saint Lucia; the Rt. Hon. James Mitchell, Prime Minister and Minister of Finance and Foreign Affairs, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines; and Senator the Hon. Dr. Sahadeo Basdeo, Minister of External Affairs and Internal Trade, Tobago. Hon. Jonathan Peters, Minister of State (Trade and Tourism), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, assisted the Prime Minister in the leadership of the delegation of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

2. Mr. Roderick Rainford, Secretary-General of the Caribbean Community, chaired the opening ceremony.

3. The Meeting was addressed by the Hon. E. Neville Cenac, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Saint Lucia, as outgoing Chairman of the Standing Committee. The Rt. Hon. James Mitchell, Prime Minister and Minister of Finance and Foreign Affairs, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, delivered the inaugural address.

4. The Prime Minister, in welcoming delegates to Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, recalled the period in which Caribbean nationals held leading positions in the Commonwealth, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the ACP and said that CARICOM's problems begin when "we do not establish to the rest of the world that we have an agenda and that a solid block of votes addresses that agenda".

5. The Prime Minister added "By having several different agendas ... we squander the sovereignty of which we boast, and the image of the Caribbean that stood so tall in the Halls of the Commonwealth, UNCTAD or the ACP recedes."

6. Cde. R. Jackson, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Guyana, replied on behalf of visiting delegations.

7. The Rt. Hon. James Mitchell was elected Chairman of the meeting and new Chairman in-office of the Standing Committee.

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THE CHANGING INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

8. The Ministers considered the changing relationship between the super-Powers, which had led to reduction in tension in some parts of the world and created the possibilities for a trend towards dialogue and conciliation in the conduct of relations among States. The Ministers expressed the hope that the super-Powers take full advantage of these possibilities to bring closer to realization the promise of universal nuclear disarmament.

9. The Ministers also noted that there were certain issues that transcend national and regional concern such as drug trafficking and the degradation of the environment. It was emphasized that regional strategies had to be devised in order to bring about a more co-ordinated approach to address these problems which threaten the security and development prospects, especially those of small States.

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ISSUES

10. The Ministers examined the recent international economic situation and the prospects for the future. They noted that the pace of global economic activity slackened in 1989 was expected to grow at a moderate pace in the near future.

11. They examined a number of factors that are likely to influence the future performance of the global economy. These factors included the future globalization of trade, finance and production structures; the trend towards regionalism; the continued evolution towards a multi-polar world economy with Europe, Japan and eastern Asia playing a more dynamic role; and the economic impact of the political changes in Eastern Europe, Central America and southern Africa.

12. The Ministers pointed out that these developments posed challenges to the developing countries and to Caribbean countries in particular. They observed that the prospects for Caribbean countries are mixed and that much would depend on the region's ability to capitalize on some of the more favourable trends in the international economic environment.

13. They welcomed the assurances given by Canada, the United States of America, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the European Community at the recent meeting of the Caribbean Group for Co-operation and Economic Development (CGCED) that future assistance to these newly emerging democracies would not be at the expense of the English-speaking States of the Caribbean region.

14. They urged that the resources of the multilateral finance institutions be increased appropriately to meet the requirements of the new democracies as well as the unfulfilled need of the developing countries of the South for additional ODA flows.

15. The Ministers welcomed the recent initiatives to address the debt problems of the highly indebted countries and the low-income countries, but were concerned that approaches had not yet been developed to address the problem of middle-income indebted countries such as those in the English-speaking Caribbean.

16. They agreed that the multilateral financial institutions had an important role to play in debt relief and to this end called for the necessary changes in their operational rules.

17. The Ministers considered the recent developments in the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations and the increasing role of the service sector in these negotiations and recongized the need for adequate preparations for these important negotiations.

18. The Ministers noted that since they last met, the Lomé IV Convention had been signed between the ACP and the EEC. They noted the new elements contained in the Convention including its longer duration and urged the region to make all efforts to take full advantage of the provisions of the new Convention.

JOINT REPRESENTATION

19. The Ministers noted the diminution of CARICOM representation on the governing bodies of a number of international organizations. They agreed that urgent steps should be taken to redress this situation. In this context they discussed the need to advance agreed CARICOM candidatures in those organizations and that a list of international organizations of primary importance to CARICOM in which such representation could be undertaken should be identified.

20. The Ministers also welcomed the offer of a number of CARICOM Governments to share the facilities of their overseas offices with other member States and examined the proposal to establish joint offices in a number of overseas locations to further the interests of the region.

RELATIONS WITH CANADA

21. The Ministers, in reviewing the subject, took note of the meeting which was held in Barbados on 19 and 20 March 1990 between the Prime Minister of Canada and heads of Government of the Commonwealth Caribbean. They agreed that the meeting was successful in bringing to the attention of Canada many of the problems of Commonwealth Caribbean countries.

22. They expressed appreciation for Canada's debt forgiveness to the Caribbean States announced by Prime Minister Mulroney as well as his undertaking to try to persuade leaders of other developed countries to make similar commitments to countries of the developing world. They also noted his pledge to ensure that aid provided to the newly emerging democracies of Eastern Europe would not be at the expense of aid commitments to the developing South.

23. They agreed that steps should be taken to follow up on the momentum generated by the Barbados meeting. In particular, they urged that early preparations be made for the Montreal and Toronto conferences on investment, which are due to take place in 1991.

24. They recongized that meetings of the Joint Trade and Economic Committee (JTEC) provided a mechanism for the further strengthening of Canada/CARICOM relations.

CARIBBEAN BASIN INITIATIVE (CBI)

25. The Ministers recalled their statement issued following their meeting in May 1989 urging the United States Congress to improve upon the provisions of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act. They noted that the legislation is expected to be considered in the conference between the House of Representatives and the Senate and that the outcome is not likely to address adequately the interests of the CBI countries, with most of the significant provisions to improve the bill removed.

26. The Ministers welcomed the provision which makes CBI permanent but expressed their disappointment with the emasculation of the bill.

27. Although Ministers regretted that all of the region's objectives were not met by the bill as it currently stands, they nevertheless welcomed the provision which makes CBI permanent.

CENTRAL AMERICA

28. The Ministers noted that recent developments in Central America had at once confirmed the value of the use of diplomacy and negotiations and also the extent to which the subregion is exposed to resort to the use of force and external intervention in the solution of both domestic and inter-State problems. The Ministers expressed the hope that the climate conducive to conciliation and the peaceful resolution of conflict would be maintained and become a permanent feature of the political landscape. They also observed that the movement towards democracy now evident in that region presented an opportunity for CARICOM to examine the possibilities of closer relations with those countries.

BELIZE/GUATEMALA

29. The Ministers considered Belize/Guatemala relations and welcomed the recent initiatives taken at the highest levels by the two States to arrive at a political understanding to advance the negotiating process. In this context they applauded the bipartisan stance adopted by Belize in the negotiations.

30. They further noted the possibility that upcoming elections in Guatemala may delay the conclusion of the negotiations, and expressed the hope that the momentum would be maintained and lead to the early preparation of a draft treaty to resolve the long-standing problem between the two countries.

GUYANA/VENEZUELA RELATIONS

31. The Ministers considered the question of Guyana/Venezuela relations and noted that contacts at different levels between the two States had continued to reflect the expanded areas of functional co-operation, espcially in the areas of energy and air transportation, and concluded that these developments augured well for the relations between the two States.

32. On the matter of the controversy the Ministers noted that Mr. Alister Mc Intyre had been appointed the personal representative of the United Nations Secretary-General to perform the functions of "good offices" and that Mr. Mc Intyre had visited the capitals of Guyana and Venezuela and held discussions with the Foreign Ministers of the respective States.

33. The Ministers registered their satisfaction with the ongoing process of dialogue and co-operation between Guyana and Venezuela.

HAITI

34. The Ministers in reviewing recent developments in Haiti expressed the hope that the most recent transition from military to civilian control of the Government would create an environment conducive to the establishment of democracy and the promotion of economic development.

35. The Ministers received the report of the CARICOM Electoral Officials Working Group, which visited Haiti in April 1990 in fulfilment of the recommendations of the first CARICOM ministerial mission in August 1989. Ministers reasserted the solidarity of the Caribbean Community with the Haitian people and confirmed the return visit of the Foreign Ministers' mission at the end of May 1990.

36. The Ministers also agreed that CARICOM would continue its efforts to respond to the Haitian Government's request for electoral assistance preferably within the framework of the United Nations-co-ordinated effort and also agreed to seek international assistance to Haiti. They agreed that a proposal should be presented to the forthcoming session of the United Nations General Assembly for the convening of an international conference for the reconstruction of Haiti.

RELATIONS WITH LATIN AMERICA

37. The Ministers reviewed the evolution of developments in the context of CARICOM/Latin America relations with particular reference to the meeting held in Tobago between President Perez of Venezuela and five CARICOM heads of Government, as well as the follow-up meeting of officials held in Caracas in January 1990. They agreed that the second meeting of officials should be held in a Caribbean country during the third quarter of 1990.

38. The Ministers noted the growing co-operation between Mexico and CARICOM as evidence by the proposed signing of the Agreement on Professional Upgrading between

Mexico and CARICOM and the ongoing discussions in the field of trade and transportation.

ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES

39. The Ministers welcomed the accession of Canada to full membership of the Organization of American States and the according of permanent observer status to Belize and Guyana after December 1990. They looked forward to the attainment of full membership by Belize and Guyana after December 1990 when the relevant provision of the Cartagena Protocol comes into effect. These developments would reinforce the regional character of the organization.

40. The Ministers reiterated their grave concern at the persistence of the financial crisis in the organization and expressed the view that in examining the ways of strengthening the organization, the Permanent Council should review the existing formula of quota payments so as to bring about a resolution of the crisis. They renewed their call on all member States in arrears to make good their contributions to the regular and voluntary funds.

41. The Ministers noted with satisfaction the role that the OAS has played in the search for a peaceful solution to the problems of the region and in Central America, and proposes to play in Haiti.

CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE (CDCC)

42. The Ministers noted the growing co-operation between the CDCC and CARICOM secretariats and between CARICOM and non-CARICOM members of the CDCC. In particular they noted ongoing co-operation in information science, population development and planning policies, and the arrangements for the regional economic conference, scheduled to be held in Trinidad and Tobago in November 1990.

43. They also noted the ongoing co-operation between the CARICOM secretariat and the secretariats of other organizations in the Latin American and Caribbean region, including the secretariat of the Latin American Economic System.

44. Concerning the functioning and effectiveness of the CDCC, the Ministers expressed continued support for the work of the Monitoring Committee and emphasized the need for active CARICOM participation in the programmes and activities of CDCC.

SOUTHERN AFRICA

45. The Ministers reviewed developments in southern Africa and noted that the independence of Namibia and a number of positive internal developments in South Africa, including the release of Nelson Mandela, had strengthened the position of the majority of the people of southern Africa in their struggle to end apartheid and to establish democratic rule. They further noted that these developments had also enhanced the prospect of a negotiated settlement. The Ministers agreed that

sanctions against the apartheid régime should be maintained. They affirmed their support for the people of South Africa in the pursuit of their aspirations.

THE ARAB/ISRAEL CONFLICT

46. The Ministers noted that the situation in the Middle East had not improved and again felt compelled to register their disappointment that the peace process has not advanced. This situation, which has implications for world peace, again underscores the need for an International Peace Conference on the Middle East in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions on the conflict.

47. The Ministers agreed that any such solution must be based on certain established principles: the right of the Palestinian people to a homeland, the withdrawal of Israel from the occupied lands, and the right to all States in the region, including Israel, to live in peace and security within recognized and secure borders in accordance with Security Council resolution 242 (1967).

ISLAND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

48. The Foreign Ministers took note of the fact that efforts over the years to promote special international measures to support the development of island developing countries were still facing opposition, especially among some of the developed countries.

49. They agreed that the case of island developing countries continues to remain strong and valid and that there was need to ensure that the special problems of those countries are addressed by the international community and that the opportunity provided by the United Nations-sponsored conference in New York be used to generate global support for them. They noted the report of the preparatory meeting held in Saint Lucia, from 28 to 30 March to formulate a CARICOM position for the United Nations global conference on the island developing countries to take place in New York in the latter part of June.

50. The Ministers agreed that there was need for CARICOM to participate actively in the conference and to this end there was need for continuing the preparatory work to ensure the adoption of an approach strategy.

DRUG ABUSE AND TRAFFICKING

51. The Ministers reviewed developments in the international anti-drug campaign over the past year and expressed the Community's recognition of the need for continued and increased international co-operation and collaboration at all levels in addressing the problems of drug production, trafficking and abuse. In this regard Ministers took special note of the significance of the most recent international and hemispheric meetings, notably, the seventeenth special session of the General Assembly, the Ministerial Summit on demand reduction in London and the Inter-American Ministerial Meeting held in Ixtapa, Mexico.

52. The Ministers noted that the active efforts of CARICOM Governments in the international anti-drug campaign were formally recognized by the inclusion in the 1988 United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of a provision to address the special problem of transit States. This Convention has been ratified by one member State and signed by three.

53. The Ministers welcomed the invitation to two member States of the Community to serve on expert groups established by the United Nations. They noted that the purpose of these groups is to address the questions of the protection of the international banking system and other financial institutions from abuse by the traffic in drugs as well as to examine the modalities for implementation of the Global Programme of Action against drug abuse.

THE ENVIRONMENT

54. The Ministers pledged that their Governments would continue to support the effort aimed at establishing an appropriate balance between the responsibility of all nations to protect and preserve the global environment and the right of developing countries to exploit their natural resources in the furtherance of their national development efforts. They also rejected the tendency by multilateral and bilateral aid donors to make the protection of the environment an additional condition for aid disbursement.

55. They agreed that the Governments should participate fully in the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, to be held in Brasilia in 1992, and the Second World Climate Conference, to be held in Geneva in 1990, as well as in preparatory meetings.

56. They were pleased to receive a report on steps being taken to give effect to the commitment of the Government of Guyana to make available a part of its tropical forests in the conduct of the major reserach exercise under the auspices of the Commonwealth. They called upon those CARICOM States which had not yet become parties to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean and the Protocol concerning Co-operation in Combating Oil Spills in the Wider Caribbean to do so. Note was taken of the newly adopted Protocol for Specially Protected Areas and Wild Life which is now open for signatories.

57. The Ministers reviewed the efforts and progress being made at the CARICOM level in the area of the environment, including the further institutionalization of the Caribbean Environment Health Institute, based in Saint Lucia, and the work being undertaken by the Consultative Forum on the Management and Conservation of the Caribbean Environment, established by the first CARICOM Ministerial Conference on the Environment held in Trinidad and Tobago in 1989. They also noted that the Second CARICOM Ministerial Conference would be taking place in Jamaica in September and that the Preparatory Meeting of Caribbean and Latin American Environment Ministers would take place in Trinidad and Tobago in October 1990.

EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONES (EEZs) OF CARICOM COUNTRIES

58. The Ministers recalled the decision of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community reached at its eighth meeting concerning the development of a programme of co-operation among member States in respect of access to their fisheries zones and management of their EEZs. They endorsed current initiatives to establish a régime for a management of the EEZs and to facilitate regional co-operation for equitable and efficient utilization of living resources of the sea, the conservation of these resources, and the protection and preservation of the marine environment.

DATE AND VENUE

59. The Ministers recalled their acceptance at their fifteenth regular meeting of the offer of the Government of Barbados to host their seventeenth meeting in Bridgetown in May 1991.

60. The Ministers reconfirmed their acceptance of the offer of the Government of the Bahamas to host the eighteenth regular meeting of the Standing Committee in 1992.

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QUESTION OF PALESTINE
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE ISRAELI PRACTICES AFFECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND OTHER ARABS OF THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-fifth year

Letter dated 30 May 1990 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency a memorandum dated 25 May 1990 from the Unified National Leadership of the Intifada, the Occupied State of Palestine, Jerusalem, for any action you may deem necessary.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of this letter, including the attached memorandum, circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 23, 35 and 77 of the preliminary list and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Zuhdi Labib TERZI
Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations

* A/45/50.

ANNEX

Memorandum dated 25 May 1990 from the Unified Leadership of the Intifada addressed to the Secretary-General

After 42 years of dispersion and exile of our people and their deprivation of the national rights which other peoples of the world enjoy; after 42 years of the international community's attempts at solving the Palestinian question by means of scores of resolutions adopted by the United Nations and the Security Council; our people, nevertheless, are still denied their right to return and self-determination, and to establish their independent state; and continue to suffer the injustice of occupation and its oppressive expansionist policies.

The convening of your emergency session in Geneva to provide Mr. Yasser Arafat, President of the State of Palestine, the opportunity to present the Palestinian case, clearly indicates increased international concern for the plight of our people in the Palestinian territories occupied in 1967 - the suffering inflicted by the Israeli occupation authorities and the increase in the intensity of the bloody massacres committed against our unarmed people.

Your countries have issued statements declaring their condemnation and denunciation, as well as grief for the victims of the massacres. It should be clearly understood that such reactions are not commensurate with a people's struggle for freedom, independence, peace and the indivisible right to self-determination - the foundations of the Charter of the United Nations.

Therefore, your countries bear a large portion of the responsibility to undertake serious and effective action in order to lay the foundations for peace, on the basis of international legitimacy and in compliance with all resolutions pertinent to the question of Palestine as adopted by the Security Council and by the General Assembly.

The Government of Israel, in its rejection of international efforts to begin a peace process in the region, has succeeded in obstructing all peace efforts. Consequently, the responsibility for establishing international security, peace, and stability is to be borne by your countries. An international order based on dialogue, mutual respect, and the non-violation of the rights of others cannot be envisaged while the Middle East area speedily hurtles towards war. This necessitates your immediate intervention to prevent further deterioration and to provide protection and support for our Palestinian people.

Therefore, in order to prevent a potential explosion in the region, your effective intervention, in accordance with international legitimacy, is essential in order to formulate a political equation which will take into account the rights of all peoples in the area, including the national rights of the Palestinian people.

We believe that the only realistic means to accelerate the establishment of peace is the convening of a fully empowered International Conference with the participation of the five permanent members of the Security Council and all parties

to the conflict including the State of Palestine represented by its leadership, the PLO, our sole and legitimate representative under United Nations supervision.

In the mean time, the drastic conditions in Occupied Palestine can bear no further delay. Our people under occupation are subjected to oppressive measures including: the killing of innocent civilians; demolition of houses; confiscation of land; erecting settlements; closure of houses of worship and of educational institutions; destruction of the economic, cultural and social infrastructures; and other measures, all of which drastically violate international charters, accords and conventions.

We therefore call upon you to act with urgency to implement the following:

1. To set up an international investigation committee, in order to reveal the deteriorating conditions before the international community as well as the magnitude of the daily suffering inflicted on the Palestinian people.

2. To bring Israel, as an occupation authority, to comply with the terms of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 pertaining to the treatment of civilians in times of war.

3. To condemn Israel and to make it shoulder full responsibility for all acts in violation of our people's rights, the most recent being the massacre which began at dawn on 20 May including the subsequent indiscriminate shooting, killing and maiming of innocent Palestinian civilians at the hands of the Israeli army.

4. To impose sanctions on Israel to force it to cease its expansionist and oppressive policies and measures and to make it comply with international law and will.

5. To provide our people in the occupied territories with international protection as a step towards full Israeli withdrawal from all territories occupied in 1967 and in order to enable our people to exercise its right to self-determination, to implement its national sovereignty on its own land, and to allow for the return of Palestinians from their exile.

6. To form a committee to prepare for the convening of the fully empowered International Conference.

7. To make Soviet Jewish immigration contingent upon the establishment of a peaceful settlement which would guarantee the national rights of the Palestinian people, including the right of return in accordance with General Assembly resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948 and including the establishment of the Independent Palestinian State.

In spite of the intensity of our pain, we declare our full commitment to the Palestinian peace strategy as presented by the PLO in the nineteenth session of the Palestinian National Council which convened in Algiers in November 1988.

We affirm before the world that we are a people seeking a secure and peaceful life. This can be achieved only in the context of the independent Palestinian State committed to the Charter of the United Nations along with all other peoples and States of the region in particular and of the world in general.

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ELECTIONS TO FILL VACANCIES IN SUBSIDIARY ORGANS

Election of twelve members of the World Food Council

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The General Assembly, in paragraph 8 of its resolution 3348 (XXIX) of 17 December 1974, decided that the World Food Council should consist of 36 members to be nominated by the Economic and Social Council and elected by the Assembly for a term of three years, taking into consideration balanced geographical representation, with one third of the members retiring every year and the retiring members being eligible for re-election. The term of the following members expires on 31 December 1990:

Bulgaria, Canada, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Indonesia, Madagascar, Mexico, Thailand, Turkey, United States of America, Uruguay and Zambia.

2. By its decision 1990/212 of 23 May 1990, the Economic and Social Council, acting in pursuance of paragraph 8 of General Assembly resolution 3348 (XXIX), decided to nominate the following States for election by the Assembly to membership of the World Food Council:

(a) African States (3 vacancies): Gambia, Kenya and Lesotho;

(b) Asian States (3 vacancies): Bangladesh, China and Nepal;

(c) Eastern European States (1 vacancy): Bulgaria;

(d) Latin American and Caribbean States (2 vacancies): Colombia and Mexico;

(e) Western European and other States (3 vacancies): Canada, Turkey and United States of America.

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* A/45/50.

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Item 16 (b) of the preliminary list*

ELECTIONS TO FILL VACANCIES IN SUBSIDIARY ORGANS

Election of twenty members of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination

Note by the Secretary-General

1. In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 2008 (LX) of 14 May 1976 and General Assembly decision 42/450 of 17 December 1987, the members of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination are nominated by the Economic and Social Council and elected by the General Assembly for a term of three years.

2. The membership of the Committee in 1990 is as follows (see General Assembly decision 44/311 of 8 November 1989):

Algeria,*** Argentina,*** Austria,* Bahamas,** Bahrain,* Bangladesh,* Benin,** Cameroon,*** Canada,* China,*** Colombia,* Côte d'Ivoire,* Cuba,* France,** Germany, Federal Republic of,* India,* Japan,*** Kenya,* Mexico,* Morocco,*** Pakistan,* Poland,* Romania,* Rwanda,* Sri Lanka,*** Sweden,* Trinidad and Tobago,* Uganda,* Union of Soviet Socialist Republics,** United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland,* United States of America,** Venezuela,** Yugoslavia,* and Zambia.**

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* Term of office expires on 31 December 1990.

** Term of office expires on 31 December 1991.

*** Term of office expires on 31 December 1992.

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* A/45/50.

3. The General Assembly, at its forty-fifth session, will, therefore, be called upon to elect 20 members, on the nomination of the Economic and Social Council, to fill the vacancies in the Committee that will occur as a result of the expiration of the terms of office of Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Canada, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Germany, Federal Republic of, India, Kenya, Mexico, Pakistan, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, Sweden, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Yugoslavia. In accordance with General Assembly decision 42/450, the vacancies are to be filled as follows:

(a) Four members from African States;

(b) Four members from Asian States;

(c) Three members from Eastern European States;

(d) Four members from Latin American and Caribbean States;

(e) Five members from Western European and other States.

4. By its decision 1990/212 of 23 May 1990, the Economic and Social Council nominated the following Member States for election by the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session, for a term of three years, beginning on 1 January 1991:

(a) African States (4 vacancies): Burundi, Congo, Nigeria and Uganda;

(b) Asian States (4 vacancies): India, Indonesia, Iraq and Pakistan;

(c) Eastern European States (3 vacancies): Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, German Democratic Republic, Poland, Romania and Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic;

(d) Latin American and Caribbean States (4 vacancies): Chile, Colombia, Mexico and Trinidad and Tobago;

(e) Western European and other States (5 vacancies): Germany, Federal Republic of, Italy, Netherlands, Norway and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

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General Assembly . Security Council

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S/21339
31 May 1990

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-fifth session
Item 35 of the preliminary list*
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-fifth year

Letter dated 31 May 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon the instructions of my Government, and further to its statement dated 22 May 1990 (A/45/286), I would like to elaborate the position of the Government of Japan on the recent wave of violence in the occupied territories and particularly the shooting of Palestinian people by an Israeli civilian on 20 May.

The Government of Japan extends its sincere condolences to the Palestinians who were injured and to the families of those killed in the massacre by an Israeli civilian in Rishon le Zion on 20 May and in the ensuing popular protests.

The Government of Japan deplores the shooting as a senseless and brutal act which claimed the lives of innocent people. It denounces the excessive force with which the Israeli authorities reacted to the subsequent popular demonstration of anger.

This killing of innocent people has exacerbated a situation where tensions had already been heightened by the question of the emigration of Soviet Jews to Israel.

Profoundly concerned about the escalation of violence, the Government of Japan demands that the Government of Israel exercise maximum self-restraint in dealing with the Palestinians in the occupied territories and that it treat them with full humanitarian consideration in accordance with international law. The Government of Japan urges the United Nations to take effective action in order to secure their just treatment.

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* A/45/50.

At the root of this tragic situation is the fact that the provisions of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973) have not been implemented and that peace in the Middle East remains an elusive goal.

In the mean time, the Palestinians in the occupied territories have been forced to endure conditions of severe political, economic and social hardship. In order to free them from these conditions and to prevent the recurrence of such tragic incidents, it is imperative that a just, lasting and comprehensive peace be achieved, with Israel's withdrawal from all the territories it has occupied since 1967. Toward this end, Japan hopes that a new Israel Government will be formed as quickly as possible and that it will respond in good faith to the efforts made by the parties concerned toward an early achievement of peace in the Middle East.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have this letter circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 35 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Yoshio HATANO
Ambassador Extraordinary
and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of
Japan to the United Nations

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A/45/299
1 June 1990

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Forty-fifth session
Items 41 and 82 of the preliminary list*

LAUNCHING OF GLOBAL NEGOTIATIONS ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION

Letter dated 25 May 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Saint Lucia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit the attached extract from the report on the Preparatory Meeting of Island Developing Countries of the Caribbean, held at Castries, Saint Lucia, from 28 to 30 March 1990, in preparation for the meeting of governmental experts of island developing countries, donor countries and organizations to take place at Headquarters from 25 to 29 June 1990, with the request that it be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under items 41 and 82 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Charles S. FLEMMING
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/45/50.

ANNEX

Elements of the island developing countries* problems requiring special attention

1. Proneness to natural disasters - hurricanes (increasing in frequency and intensity), volcanic activity, earthquakes and similar acts of nature and accidents, such as oil-spills and other environmental pollution hazards - requires elaborate disaster-preparedness measures and mechanisms, particularly in the light of the devastation and long-term impact on economic activity in small island developing countries that these occasion.

2. (a) The geographical remoteness of island developing countries and their relatively extensive coastlines are a constant invitation to invasion. Smuggling, illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, invasion of the exclusive economic zones by foreign fishermen and even attacks by guerrillas and mercenaries must all be guarded against;

(b) In addition, islands have a great need for, and a high dependence on, capital-intensive air and sea services that are costly to maintain. They are also at a disadvantage in terms of freight costs of imports and exports, while their service industries, especially tourism and trans-shipment, are severely handicapped by inadequate or expensive port services;

(c) Archipelagic island developing countries have the further problem of inter-island or intraregional transport. Transport costs frequently determine the viability of industries. Given the situation of high costs and low volume, Governments of island developing countries are frequently forced to undertake the operation of airlines, shipping and ferry services in circumstances where private enterprise find the rate of return unattractive.

3. The development of marine and land resources must be so designed that aspects of the development process that may cause pollution are controlled to maintain sound ecological balance.

4. The fragile terrestrial and marine ecosystems are being irreparably damaged not only by environmental threats, such as global warming, which may result in sea-level rise and climatic changes, but also by activities emanating outside the jurisdiction of island developing countries. This process of ecosystem degradation is exacerbated by the absence of human and financial resources to implement the appropriate conservation policies.

5. Demographic factors that lead to excessive population pressures strain the "carrying capacity of an island developing country". Alternatively, the continuing

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* Among these "countries" are included dependent territories and free-associated territories whose constitutional status may differ from one to another.

emigration of professional and skilled personnel diminishes the productive capacity of an island developing country.

6. (a) Limited resources - human, natural and financial - resulting from smallness, increase the dependence of island developing countries on external resources - technical and financial - and thus increase their vulnerability unless some predictability is introduced into the provision of such resources;

(b) In addition, extensive specialization, resulting from limited resources, subjects the economies of island developing countries to the usually negative impact of marked fluctuations in foreign exchange earnings. The avoidance of severe disruptions in production, external-debt servicing, etc., require programmes to stabilize these earnings.

7. Island developing countries, although in most cases relatively small, must provide the same range of public services found in larger countries. The result is a high administrative cost, either measured in per capita terms, or in relation to available financial resources.

8. New scientific advances in biotechnology and material sciences are altering techniques that some island developing countries now employ in agriculture and mining. Competitive production requires mechanisms to enable island developing countries to access and utilize these new techniques.

9. The smallness of the economies of island developing countries render them vulnerable to the effects of policy changes implemented by transnational corporations operating in their territories. This may occur without prior notice, outside the influence of the island developing countries, and impact negatively upon a number of economic variables, such as: employment of nationals who have been trained in a narrow field or skill; unpredictable fluctuations in foreign exchange earnings; medium-term planning of vocational and technical training programmes; and the ability of market forces to adapt rapidly to such changes.

10. In the context of the non-independent Caribbean countries, there is the problem of limited access to and participation in programmes and activities of the special agencies and other organs of the United Nations system.

Measures required

There are a number of features, whether constituting problems or representing opportunities, which are intrinsic to island developing countries and require the attention, or in some cases, increased attention, of donor agencies. The case for special support by the international community for island developing countries remains valid, if these countries are to continue to provide a reasonable level of opportunities for their population. The particular areas of support will vary between islands, but there are some broad areas in which support will generally be required, in line with national measures. These areas should form the basis for programmes by bilateral donors and international organizations. Accordingly, the international donor community should be encouraged to support activities in the following areas:

1. External financial and technical assistance

(a) Maintenance and increase of the concessional financing at present available to island developing countries, given the limited prospects for resource based development and domestic resource mobilization in many island developing countries;

(b) Terms and conditions of financial and technical assistance should correspond to requirements and capacities of island developing countries, including the need to continue assistance for a reasonable period of time;

(c) Assistance should be untied, wherever possible;

(d) Criteria for allocation of funds and graduation should not be based only on per capita gross national product (GNP), but should take account of total development needs and constraints, including other factors of physical, economic and social disabilities and vulnerability indices (for example, the relative amount of land area available for development in comparison to total land area). Also, the supplementary criteria used by the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for allocation of indicative planning figures (IPFs) should be reviewed in order to take into account the special needs of island developing countries;

(e) Reducing the rigidity of rules and procedures of bilateral and multilateral donor agencies, which limit both access to and participation in those institutions from which benefits can be derived;

(f) Simplification, harmonization and decentralization of operational procedures of bilateral and multilateral donor agencies with respect to island developing countries;

(g) Review of development strategies to take account of specific island problems within the planning process; for example, the need to develop sea-use maps as a consequence of the enlarged exclusive economic zone in relation to land-size.

2. Areas of opportunities

Notwithstanding the constraints facing island developing countries, there are some areas of opportunity coming out of their geological formations. Such attributes as excellent beaches, tropical weather and climatic conditions offer potential for tourism development that can be a major source of foreign exchange. The large exclusive economic zone of islands can also be a potential resource. But these areas of opportunity require large amounts of capital, beyond the capability of the island State, for infrastructural development before they can be of benefit. Assistance in developing these areas with a multisectoral and multipurpose approach could greatly enhance the capacity of the island country to undertake other development projects of its own accord.

3. Proneness to natural disasters

(a) Priority at the national, regional and international levels to disaster preparedness and disaster management, including the assessment of mitigation measures;

(b) Training in a wide range of relevant areas, including civil engineering and emergency communication techniques;

(c) Public information/awareness campaigns;

(d) Establishing disaster preparedness networks at the national and regional levels;

(e) Adequate building codes and appropriate building materials;

(f) Building the required facilities and obtaining the necessary equipment;

(g) Continuous research to improve forecasting capabilities.

4. Problems of remoteness

(a) Joint policing and other collaborative measures to overcome the inability of some island developing countries to undertake surveillance of their coastlines and surrounding exclusive economic zones;

(b) Enhanced United Nations action to reduce the vulnerability of small island developing countries to aggression and other external illegal action;

(c) Maintenance and expansion of efforts to address existing deficiencies in such areas as maritime legislation, safety practices, cost-effective passenger services, database and negotiating techniques, as well as the movement and handling of perishables and other products;

(d) Training, including through safety awareness workshops, to sensitize small-vessel operators, fishermen and management and non-management training for port personnel;

(e) Upgrading port facilities and adjacent inland infrastructure;

(f) Multinational air services for regions or subregions comprising island developing countries and requiring such action;

(g) Assistance from the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and other agencies in the development of integrated feeder air services into the smaller islands and, generally, in the difficult problems associated with air transport planning and airport safety in small regions;

(h) Use of modern information and communication technology as a means of intensifying news and cultural and educational exchanges.

5. Environment, conservation and development

(a) Promotion of development strategies that balance the needs of development with the fragility of insular ecosystems;

(b) Measures to reduce the effect on small island developing countries of such global hazards as global warming;

(c) Mechanisms to monitor the transboundary movement of hazardous waste into the terrestrial and maritime areas of island developing countries;

(d) Prevention and control of pollution of the beaches and tourist attractions, as well as of ports and industrial sites;

(e) Development of techniques, measures and arrangements with respect to the management, control and disposal of sewerage and other locally generated waste in small land spaces and with respect to toxic chemical management;

(f) Forest conservation measures and research and development of practices that contribute to efficient forestry use;

(g) Fisheries resources survey and development of aquaculture, mariculture and other activities to increase fish stocks;

(h) Development and implementation of coastal-zone management plans.

6. Agriculture, manufacturing and industry

(a) Strengthening of investment credit and agricultural services;

(b) Research into crop and product diversification and animal feed production;

(c) Improving marketing organization and intelligence network;

(d) Development of agro-industrial activities and land management systems;

(e) Assistance in technology extension service in plant operation, quality control, labelling and standardization, equipment selection, negotiation and acquisition and appropriate marketing information;

(f) Strengthening the co-operative movements in the agriculture, manufacturing and industry sectors, in particular in employment - generation programmes;

(g) Strengthening institutes for technical and skills training and developing programmes to promote employment;

(h) Assistance in promoting and developing indigenous entrepreneurship, as well as in attracting outside entrepreneurship and investment to support local capabilities.

7. Tourism

(a) Strengthening the tourism-training institutions in areas of planning, marketing, management and negotiating contractual arrangements;

(b) Developing data gathering and processing to improve planning in the tourism sector: manpower survey, capacity of tourism sector, marketing, etc;

(c) Hotel classification and registration scheme;

(d) Standardization of certificates in the tourism industry.

8. Science and technology for development

(a) Strengthening the technological capacity and improving the environment for technological development, adaptation and acquisition;

(b) Assistance in strengthening systems for science and technology planning;

(c) Identification of new areas for productive activity;

(d) Negotiating for new and emerging technologies;

(e) Technology adaptation;

(f) Creation and strengthening networks and other mechanisms for technology development and acquisition;

(g) Improvement of science and technology skills and programmes.

9. Trade and export promotion

(a) Improve arrangements to provide insurance to island developing countries against external shocks causing a fall in export and foreign exchange earnings, such as a broadening of existing arrangements to cover all foreign exchange earnings shortfalls;

(b) Market access for products in which the island developing countries have a growth potential;

(c) Enhance quality and quantity of production;

(d) Develop the marketing and financing management in trade and export activities;

(e) Assist in export credit, export financing and investment financing;

(f) Promote the role of co-operatives in trade and export activities.

10. Institution-building and human-resource development

(a) Improve the organizational and managerial capability of Governments to plan and implement public policy;

(b) Modernize the financial and budgetary administration of the public sector;

(c) Enhance the capacity of the Governments to analyse and implement administrative reform programmes;

(d) Increase the effectiveness of the human resource administration to recruit, retain and develop needed personnel, in an environment prone to emigration of skilled personnel;

(e) Establish programmes for the retention of professional and skilled personnel;

(f) Assess the negative social impacts of structural adjustment programmes, particularly on vulnerable groups, in the light of the increasing unemployment and underemployment problem in many island developing countries, with a view to establishing employment-promotion programmes.

11. Regional co-operation

(a) Further development and implementation of integrated sector plans;

(b) Strengthening co-operation in areas of: exploitation of the exclusive economic zones; agricultural research; export promotion; export credit and credit insurance; transport sector (air and sea);

(c) Financial and technical support to regional institutions;

(d) Co-operation in environmental management;

(e) Strengthening co-operation in the control of illicit trafficking and abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.

12. Non-independent Caribbean countries

Implementing relevant resolutions of the General Assembly calling on specialized agencies and other organs of the United Nations system to institute measures for increased participation of the non-independent Caribbean countries in United Nations programmes and activities.

13. United Nations system

(a) Identify those United Nations bodies, such as UNDP, the Centre on Transnational Corporations, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme and the International Labour Organisation to name a few, which could specifically increase their activities with respect to assisting island developing countries;

(b) Facilitate the greater use of technical co-operation among developing countries modality with respect to small island developing country programmes;

(c) Encourage members of the United Nations family to consider, on a case-by-case basis, mechanisms for rendering assistance to small island developing countries;

(d) Special consideration to the problems of island developing countries within the international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade;

(e) Prominence to the problems of fragile ecosystems associated with islands by the Global Meeting on the Environment and within the work programme of UNEP in general.

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1 June 1990

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Forty-fifth session
Item 34 of the preliminary list*

POLICIES OF APARTHEID OF THE GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA

Letter dated 31 May 1990 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of the message addressed to Mr. Nelson Mandela by the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in support of the struggle of the great people of South Africa for freedom and the elimination of racism (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under item 34 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Kamal KHARRAZI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/45/50.

ANNEX

Message dated 31 May 1990 from the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Mr. Nelson Mandela

I wish to express my satisfaction over the visit of Mr. Alfred Nzo, Secretary-General of the African National Congress, that took place after the freedom of Your Excellency from the prisons of the racist South African régime. It is indeed a source of pleasure that suitable conditions have emerged that can open new horizons for our existing co-operative relations. The Islamic Republic of Iran has constantly supported the valiant struggles of the great people of South Africa for the elimination of racism and for putting an end to the domination of whites over the destiny of the majority of people in South Africa.

The identity in our position and outlook will have a positive effect in bringing about greater mutual understanding. Our mutual co-operation will certainly contribute to the materialization of our sacred goals, such as freedom and guidance of mankind, and exchanging experiences can play its rightful role in more clearly drawing our future course.

I avail myself of this opportunity to express the best wishes of myself and the Moslem revolutionary people of Iran and declare the readiness of the Islamic Republic of Iran for co-operation and exchange of views and experiences. While wishing good health and success for you and happiness and every success for the freedom fighting forces, I hope you will visit the Islamic Republic of Iran at an appropriate time.

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1 June 1990
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ORIGINAL: SPANISH

Forty-fifth session
Item 111 of the preliminary list*

INTERNATIONAL ACTION TO COMBAT DRUG ABUSE AND ILLICIT TRAFFICKING

Letter dated 29 May 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to document A/45/262, entitled "International action to combat drug abuse and illicit trafficking", which contains the text of the Declaration of the World Ministerial Summit to Reduce the Demand for Drugs and to Combat the Cocaine Threat, held at London from 9 to 11 April 1990.

In that connection, on instructions from my Government I wish to draw your attention to the fact that:

(a) The "Falkland Islands" are listed in section B of the appendix to the Declaration, entitled "The United Kingdom Dependent Territories and Crown Dependencies";

(b) The territories in question are the Malvinas Islands;

(c) The Malvinas Islands are the subject of a sovereignty dispute between the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

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* A/45/50.

I request you to have this note circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 111 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Jorge VAZQUEZ
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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5 June 1990
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ORIGINAL: SPANISH

Forty-fifth session
Item 83 of the preliminary list*

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

Letter dated 1 June 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Ecuador to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that the Government of Ecuador has declared the 1990s the "Decade of Ecodevelopment", and has issued an appeal to the Ecuadorian people to contribute to the rational and balanced management of natural resources, in keeping with their legitimate aspirations for development, with particular emphasis on research, environmental education and relevant legislation.

The Declaration on the Decade of Ecodevelopment is contained in Presidential Resolution No. 04 of 22 April 1990 (see annex).

As the Presidential Decree is closely related to item 83 of the preliminary list for the General Assembly, I should be grateful if you would arrange to have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly.

(Signed) José AYALA LASSO
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/45/50.

ANNEX

RESOLUTION NO. 04

RODRIGO BORJA,
President of the Republic

Whereas:

The country must take measures urgently for the management of its natural resources and environment, as economic and social development cannot be in conflict with the conservation of these resources,

The consequences of deterioration of natural resources and the environment affect the nation's present and future, and that hence solving the problem is the responsibility of society at large,

The development process must aim not only at increasing material wealth but also at improving the quality of life of Ecuadorians,

Resolves that:

(1) The 1990s shall be declared the Decade of Ecodevelopment;

(2) The nation's economic and social development shall be planned, implemented and evaluated in accordance with environmental criteria, so that it will be sustainable and not destructive of the environment and natural resources;

(3) All development projects shall pay special attention to their potential environmental impact.

Done at the National Palace in Quito on 22 April 1990

Rodrigo Borja
President of the Republic

Mario Jalil Rodríguez
Minister of Agriculture and
Cattle-raising

Plutarco Naranjo Vargas
Minister of Health

Diego Tamariz Serrano,
Minister of Energy and Mining

THE DECADE OF ECODEVELOPMENT

Declaration by the President of the Republic, Dr. Rodrigo Borja, on proclaiming the 1990s the Decade of Ecodevelopment

My fellow Ecuadorians:

The challenges of the future increasingly demand that the Governments and citizens of the world combine economic development with the preservation of environmental conditions that will guarantee the well-being of present and future generations.

It is becoming increasingly clear that development in and of itself is not a desirable goal if it does not ensure the sustained and rational use of natural resources, for well-being cannot be defined merely as the accumulation of material wealth but must also represent an improvement in the quality of life of the people. This includes the right to a healthy life, clean air, uncontaminated food, and decent, proper environmental conditions at home and at work.

In essence, development implies a necessary and feasible harmony between man and nature, but this has not always been the case. Too often, science and technology have been used irresponsibly in exploiting non-renewable resources. This has contributed to a growing deterioration of environmental conditions - through improper use of the soil, the employment of polluting technologies to grow crops, the extraction of resources more rapidly than they can be renewed and the growing accumulation of non-degradable wastes.

Consequently, it is a matter of the utmost urgency for the nation must take decisions and measures for the management of its natural resources and environment. It is becoming essential to strike the proper balance between the needs of a population which is undergoing explosive growth and the utilization of the always limited resources nature has bestowed on us.

I have therefore decided to give special attention to this problem. My administration has taken important steps, such as the establishment of the Department of Afforestation and Natural Resources within the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, the Department of Environment within the Ministry of Energy and Mines, and the Environmental Unit within Petroecuador, whose environmental management role has been supported and will be expanded. The last two entities have developed and issued to the oil companies, for the first time in Ecuadorian history, the technical standards with which they will have to comply during all phases of oil production in order to protect the environment.

Likewise, during my first days in office, I appointed an Indigenous Affairs Commission within the Office of the President, whose primary efforts have been focused on seeking solutions to the problems of Ecuador's indigenous ethnic groups; in that context, the Commission has also concentrated on ensuring that ecological requirements are taken into account in all Government policies.

During the first 19 months of my administration, the ownership of 1,400,000 hectares of land was transferred to indigenous communities, most of it as community property, thus ensuring both the survival of these groups and their culture and the preservation of the environment.

In a different sphere, by Executive Decree No. 375 of 19 January 1989 I established the new Coastal Resources Management Programme for the preservation and development of the coastal resources of the provinces of Esmeraldas, Manabi, Guayas, El Oro and Galápagos. I have also supported the operations of the respective national commission and its technical office, and the establishment of special management areas, in whose administration the respective communities are involved.

My Government has taken many other actions in the ecological sphere, and by so doing has merited international support. However, we can and should do more. Accordingly, I have decided, by means of Executive Resolution No. 04 of today's date, to designate the 1990s as the Decade of Ecodevelopment, in other words, the decade in which Ecuador's economic and social development will be planned, implemented and evaluated in accordance with environmental criteria, so that it will be sustainable and not destructive of the environment and natural resources, and that at the same time it aims not only at increasing material wealth, but also at improving the living standards of our people.

To this end, I have given instructions that environmental criteria must be the common denominator of all development projects, and I call upon the patriotism of Ecuadorians in order to make the conservation of nature an essential part of all activities carried out by the Ecuadorian community.

As a result of the proclamation of the Decade of Ecodevelopment, Ecuador will have to place special emphasis on the relevant research, environmental education and legislation.

My responsibility as a public official requires me to tell the truth: Ecuador will not give up the exploration and exploitation of its natural resources, since the building of the basic infrastructure which we need is largely dependent upon them. At the same time, however, I am committed to ensuring that such exploitation takes place increasingly in a manner which is scientifically compatible with the protection of the fragile ecosystem in which those resources are found. We will be increasingly strict with ourselves and with those who share the risks of petroleum investment. We will continue progressively to implement the internationally recognized standards which ensure efficient exploitation and minimize the risks of pollution.

In accordance with the National Economic and Social Development Plan for 1988-1992, we will promote public participation in the formulation and implementation of policies for the rational management of natural resources, through education, training, research and the choice of appropriate technologies, and through specific consultation mechanisms with regard to major decisions.

We are now formulating, and we intend to implement, new strategies for dealing with urban environmental problems, and we will work out specific programmes for the restoration of ecosystems damaged by excessive human pressure.

The tasks of this Decade do not fall solely on the Government. Precisely because of the vast biological richness of Ecuador's natural resources, the world has an obligation to help in protecting them. Therefore, we will seek increased technical co-operation and international funding for environmental issues.

However, the Decade of Ecodevelopment is also a task for the entire community, with each sector contributing its appropriate share. Accordingly, it is Ecuador as a whole which accepts this commitment to guide society towards a new pattern of harmonious development, in which the processes leading to regeneration of natural resources and the environment are respected. I invite everyone to take part in this task, because today conservation and development mean peace.

Quito, 22 April 1990

Earth Day

Rodrigo BORJA,
President of the Republic

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Forty-fifth session
Items 12, 41, 58, 82, 83, 84, 85,
86 and 111 of the preliminary list*

REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

LAUNCHING OF GLOBAL NEGOTIATIONS ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT

GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

PROTECTION OF GLOBAL CLIMATE FOR PRESENT AND FUTURE GENERATIONS OF MANKIND

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION FOR THE ERADICATION OF POVERTY IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

EXTERNAL DEBT CRISIS AND DEVELOPMENT

INTERNATIONAL ACTION TO COMBAT DRUG ABUSE AND ILLICIT TRAFFICKING

Letter dated 5 June 1990 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Malaysia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the Arabic, English, French and Spanish texts of the joint communiqué adopted by the First Meeting of the Summit Level Group for South-South Consultations and Co-operation/Group of 15, held at Kuala Lumpur from 1 to 3 June 1990 (see annex).

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* A/45/50.

I should be grateful if you could arrange to have the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under items 12, 41, 58, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86 and 111 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) HASMY Agam
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

/...

ANNEX

Joint communiqué adopted by the First Meeting of the Summit Level Group for South-South Consultations and Co-operation, Group of 15, held at Kuala Lumpur from 1 to 3 June 1990

1. We the Heads of State or Government, and Special Representatives of Algeria, Argentina, Brazil, Egypt, Indonesia, India, Jamaica, Malaysia, Mexico, Nigeria, Peru, Senegal, Venezuela, Yugoslavia and Zimbabwe met at Kuala Lumpur from 1 to 3 June 1990 to commence a process of regular consultations and co-ordination to enhance co-operation and self-reliance in the context of an increasingly interdependent world. A review of the world situation and the state of international economic relations affecting developing countries is a necessary ingredient to developing common perceptions on events which have significance to the South for all of us and would assist us to devise common strategies. We regard this as imperative in order to cope with the far-reaching changes taking place at an unprecedented pace around us and in our countries.

2. These are times of momentous global developments and promising prospects for all countries to work together for the well-being and peace of the world. The easing of East-West tension, the political evolution in Eastern Europe, the beginning of a movement towards disarmament, progress in the resolution of regional disputes and the growing convergence of views on development strategies, as well as on the need for closer interaction with the mainstream of the world economy, have created opportunities for a renewed thrust to international co-operation for development.

3. Structural changes are taking place in the world economy and in international economic relations. Rapid developments in science and technology have transformed the pattern of production, consumption and trade. The revolution in communication technologies has led to an unprecedented globalization of capital and other markets. New centres of economic power have emerged. These developments have heightened the interdependence among nations and the inter-linkages of issues that require a global approach. A growing awareness of threats to the environment has further underlined the need for shared responsibility for the world's destiny.

4. The formation of economic groupings among developed countries could lead to a fragmentation of world trade. This is particularly so in the context of the present erosion of the multilateral trading system. The contribution of these economic groupings to world trade will critically depend upon their external economic policies. The successful economic integration should go beyond special and regional arrangements and lead to the strengthening of the multilateral system offering opportunities for all countries.

5. Although world trade and output have recorded sustained growth for a number of years, the vast majority of developing countries have witnessed stagnation or declines in real terms in their per capita incomes, and economic and social infrastructure.

6. We are fully aware of our responsibility for the development of our respectiv countries. We are undertaking far-reaching economic reforms and structural adjustment measures, some of which are often at considerable social and political costs in order to enhance the competitiveness, upgrade the technological level and improve efficiency. For national development to be sustained, a supportive and predictable international economic environment is essential.

7. We are at the same time committed to undertake the necessary measures to mobilize domestic savings and attract foreign financial resources particularly direct investment and other non-debt-creating flows.

8. A major challenge is to work out policies that would lead to enhanced growth and development conditions in the world economy. Accelerating growth and development in developing countries require a substantial increase in the transfer of resources to developing countries, enlarging market access to their exports and by ensuring stability and transparency in the management of world monetary and financial policies and arrangements.

9. We are extremely concerned about the persistence of the external debt problem. There is an urgent need for more innovative, comprehensive and flexible responses to the external debt problem, in order to reverse the negative net transfer of resources that seriously endangers the efforts of developing countries to achieve adequate levels of growth and real income improvements. These are also vital factors for social stability and for the consolidation of democratic processes.

10. Any effective solution to the external debt problem is a joint responsibility and requires the full commitment of debtor and creditor countries, multilateral financial institutions and commercial banks, and the relating of debt-servicing to development needs. Efforts by developed countries are needed to reduce external and internal imbalances, improve the functioning of the international monetary system, stabilize exchange rates, lower real interest rates and ensure greater access to their markets.

11. The recent initiatives aimed at the reduction of the stock of debt and debt service are steps in the right direction. However, these initiatives, in order to respond to the universal and multifaceted character of the debt problem, need to be enhanced, broadened to embrace all categories of debtor nations and implemented more effectively. This includes a positive approach, and not punitive measures, to the problem of arrears with multilateral financial institutions. In addition, there is a need to create appropriate mechanisms to assist developing countries that are net transferers of resources to these institutions. Substantial additional resources need to be provided to back debt reduction operations and support adjustment measures.

12. We have agreed that financial experts from our countries acting as personal representatives of the Heads of State or Government meet and discuss the external debt problem with the view of formulating common approaches.

13. There is a close link between trade and external debt. An improvement in market access and in the terms of trade of developing countries is an essential component of an effective and lasting solution to the external debt problem.

14. The maintenance of an open multilateral trading system is crucial for the expansion of world trade and development of all countries. Recent trends towards unilateralism and selective bilateralism that threaten the multilateral system need to be reversed. We urge the developed countries to fulfil their earlier commitments on Standstill and Rollback, and on imparting greater transparency and predictability to GATT rules. We reaffirm our commitment to a balanced and successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, which takes into account the concerns and needs of the developing countries. We shall closely consult each other and co-ordinate our efforts towards this end.

15. We agree to co-operate among ourselves and with developed countries to strengthen commodity markets to achieve stable and renumerative prices for commodities. We urge that efforts be made to improve market access whereby developing countries would be able to fully exploit opportunities for increased processing, marketing and distribution. In this context, it is important to ensure the effective operation of the recently established Common Fund for Commodities.

16. We are concerned that some industrialized countries continue to subsidize heavily farm production and agricultural exports which deprive developing countries of fair and competitive market opportunities. We therefore support steps to reduce, if not to eliminate, such agricultural trade-distorting subsidies which would help to improve the international economic situation, taking into account the interests of net food-importing developing countries.

17. We welcome the positive changes in East-West relations which have led to a relaxation of international tension and improved prospects for significant disarmament measures. For this, it is essential that ways and means be found for making available for development purposes a significant part of the resources released through disarmament measures.

18. The present process of technological change poses challenges to developing countries. They have an impact on their comparative advantage in raw materials production and labour-intensive economic activities. The increasing monopolization of technological progress by the developed countries and the relatively small technology base and capability of developing countries to bridge the technology gap is aggravated by barriers placed on access to high technology. It is necessary to improve the access, the diffusion and the utilization of new technologies by developing countries. In this context, it is critical that régimes on intellectual property effectively promote technological development in developing countries and their access to high technologies. We are determined to initiate a significant programme of co-opertation in science and technology to enhance the development of the South.

19. Conscious of the responsibility that we bear, together with all other countries, for the future of mankind, we reaffirm the need for effective actions for the protection of the environment. Urgent and renewed efforts are therefore

needed on a wide front to safeguard the environment. Any global initiative in overcoming environmental problems requires concerted international co-operation based on an equitable sharing of responsibilities and that takes into account existing asymmetries between developed and developing countries. Developing countries require substantial additional resources for pursuing their goals of sustainable development, including access to environmentally sound technology at affordable costs and the establishment of funding mechanisms. We recognize the importance of co-ordinating our positions on issues of major concern to us on the agenda of the forthcoming United Nations Conference on Environment and Development to be held in Brazil in 1992.

20. We consider the problem of production and trafficking of illicit drugs as one of increasing concern. A comprehensive approach is required whereby current action undertaken in the producing countries is accompanied by decisive action of the international community to curtail the demand for drugs, as well as to support crop-substitution programmes and income-producing activities, instead of insisting on those eradication programmes that are environmentally dangerous.

21. We look forward to a constructive and continuing dialogue with the industrialized ccuntries. This is imperative for the management of the global interdependence in the most effective manner. There is an urgent need for a global consensus centred on sustained economic growth and development. We reaffirm our resolve to strengthen multilateral co-operation and to work together to find new ways of dealing with problems in a co-operative, constructive and mutually supportive manner.

22. We regard South-South co-operation as an integral part of our strategy for breathing new life into international development co-operation. We need to pursue opportunities for greater interrelationship among South countries so as to provide a stronger basis for collective self-reliance. We consider that an evolutionary approach to the promotion of such co-operation is appropriate and that interested countries should initiate co-operation through viable projects open to participation by all developing countries.

23. In order to accelerate South-South co-operation, we agreed to the principle that, if a core group of countries are ready to initiate and implement joint action for mutual benefit, they should go ahead, while making sure that their actions do not prejudice the basic interests of developing countries that are not yet ready to participate.

24. We encourage pairs of developing countries to exploit actively the potential for trade among them by adopting payments and "trade information" related arrangements in a flexible manner to suit their circumstances. In addition, we direct a task force of central banks to formulate the working details of an interregional payments arrangement and mechanism, with a view to early implementation of the project on a pilot basis.

25. We agree in principle to establish a south Investment, Trade and Technology Data Exchange Center to promote and disseminate information on investment and trade opportunities in the South and on technology and the transfer of technology among developing countries; and to set up an Expert Group to work out and finalize the details of the implementation of this project, taking into account existing arrangements among developing countries.

26. In order to stimulate South-South co-operation among the business community and Government, we agree that a Business and Investment Forum should be organized to bring together businessmen and investors, as well as Government officials, to exchange ideas and information on the promotion of and co-operation in South-South trade and investment, including the organization of trade fairs and the promotion of trade and investment opportunities in the South.

27. In the light of the need of the developing countries to improve further their capacity in science and technology, to enhance the capability in food production in food-deficit countries and to cope with the population problem, we have noted the specific project proposals in these areas. We have directed that details of these projects be further elaborated for implementation by expert groups.

28. We attach particular importance to the Global System of Trade Preferences among developing countries as a vehicle for promoting trade and closer economic co-operation among them. In this context, it is envisaged that the Second Round of Negotiations be launched under the Global System of Trade Preferences as soon as possible.

29. We believe that it would be useful for regional economic groupings of developing countries to co-operate on an interregional basis for mutual benefit and recommend member countries to adopt concrete steps to implement this initiative.

30. We have agreed to consult the Group of 24 regarding the modalities of setting up an advisory group to assist developing countries, upon request, in their dealing with multilateral financial institutions and to give advice on the possible impact of conditionalities put forward by these institutions.

31. We are all members of the wider fraternity of developing countries, particularly the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries or the Group of 77. We are fully committed to the objective of promoting co-operation among developing countries. To this end, we agree to convey the results of our meeting to all members of the Group of 77 and of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries.

32. We have agreed to set up a Steering Committee comprising three member countries, namely, Malaysia, Senegal and Venezuela at the Foreign Ministers level to co-ordinate the work of the Group of 15 until the next Summit and to decide on the size and location of a small group of permanent staff to assist the Steering Committee.

33. In relation to the implementation of projects, we have also decided that support mechanisms be established in countries whose projects have been endorsed.

34. We have decided to hold our summit meetings on an annual basis. We gratefully accept the invitation extended to us by His Excellency Carlos Andrez Pérez, the President of Venezuela, to hold our next meeting at Caracas in June 1991.

35. We took note, with satisfaction, of the progress report which the Chairman of the South Commission, Mwalimu Julius Nyerere, made on the conclusion of the Independent Commission. We look forward to the presentation of the final Report which is to take place at Caracas next August and gladly accept the invitation of President Pérez to be present at Ministerial level on that occasion.

36. We express our warm appreciation to Prime Minister Dato' Seri Dr. Mahathir Mohamad, and the Government and people of Malaysia for carrying forward the initiative for South-South Consultation and Co-operation launched at Belgrade in September 1989. We also express deep gratitude for the excellent arrangements made for our meeting and the generous hospitality extended to us by the Government and people of Malaysia.

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-fifth session
Item 34 of the preliminary list*
POLICIES OF APARTHEID OF THE
GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-fifth year

Letter dated 5 June 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Botswana to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit the attached statements made by His Excellency Dr. Quett K. J. Masire, President of the Republic of Botswana, and Mr. Nelson Mandela, Deputy President of the African National Congress, on the occasion of the latter's visit to Botswana.

I would be grateful if the present letter and these statements could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 34 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Legwaila J. LEGWAILA
Ambassador and
Permanent Representative

* A/45/50.

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ANNEX I

Welcome remarks dated 4 June 1990 by the President of the Republic of Botswana on the occasion of the visit to Botswana of the Vice-President of the African National Congress

1. It is a great pleasure for me, on behalf of the Government and the people of Botswana, and on my own behalf, to extend a very warm welcome to the Vice-President of the African National Congress, Mr. Nelson Mandela, to Mrs. Winnie Mandela and to all the members of his delegation. We are most grateful, indeed, that despite his preoccupation with the political developments in his own country, as well as the heavy demands that are being made continuously on his precious time, he still found it possible to accept our invitation to visit the Republic of Botswana. I would like to assure Mr. Mandela that we regard his visit to our country not only as an honour to its people, but also as a clear indication of his appreciation of Botswana's unflinching commitment to the cause of liberation in southern Africa and to the attainment of a non-racial democratic society in South Africa.

2. Nelson Mandela is a hero of our time, a great man who has fought tirelessly for the eradication of apartheid for most of his life. He is a passionate democrat who has no truck with discrimination of any kind. Spending 27 years in gaol has not in any way shaken his commitment to the liberation struggle in South Africa. In fact, on the contrary, the long years of incarceration have strengthened and deepened his resolve to bring about an end to apartheid and to usher in a democratic South Africa. There is no sign of bitterness in his heart, no sign of rancour despite his long and unjustifiable term of imprisonment. His release, which was celebrated world-wide, was the result of a combination of a bitter struggle waged over a period of many years by the ANC and the people of South Africa, on the one hand, and of relentless pressure exerted by the international community, on the other.

3. True to his character and conviction, Mr. Mandela fought tirelessly against apartheid even inside the prison cells of Robben Island through Pollsmoor to Victor Verster. He never compromised his principles and his convictions. In a word, he has dedicated his life to the freedom of his people and the establishment of a non-racial and democratic South Africa. Mr. Mandela, we join the world in saluting your courage and patience in fighting for what is right and just.

4. Batswana have always condemned and rejected the apartheid system practised in South Africa because it is immoral and evil. That is why we have supported and continue to support the demands of the oppressed majority for a non-racial and democratic society. That is one of the reasons why we are a front-line State.

5. The accession to power of President de Klerk, the measures that his Government announced on 2 February and the subsequent release of Mr. Mandela and other political prisoners, give us reason to hope that there may be some light at the end of the tunnel. Even more encouraging were the results of the recent talks about talks held between the African National Congress and the South African Government.

The road ahead is, of course, a difficult, tortuous and bumpy one, but we have confidence in your ability and the determination of the people of South Africa to weather it all.

6. The front-line States stand ready to assist in whatever way they can, during the difficult transition from apartheid to a democratic South Africa. The people of South Africa have suffered for too long; they deserve peace and dignity in their motherland. The remaining obstacles to negotiations must therefore be removed without delay. It is the duty of the international community to ensure complete implementation of the Declaration of the Sixteenth Special Session of the General Assembly, which was inspired by the Harare Declaration.

7. Nelson, you have become a symbol of hope and admiration for people in this region and millions all over the world. We are happy to see you in our midst, here in Botswana, where our people can express their support and love for you in person. They have worked hard and waited long for your release. Although the struggle for a democratic South Africa, which you have come to symbolize, is far from over, it gives us much satisfaction to see you here in person and to see you back in action against apartheid.

8. Your wife, Winnie, has been an inspiration to you and many during the long years of your incarceration. We admire her courage and dedication to her family and to the cause of her people. We also admire her fortitude under tremendous political and emotional stress during those lonely years. Together you are a team.

9. You and your colleagues, with whom you spent almost three decades in prison, are an asset to the ANC. You have timeously filled the gap left by the temporary absence of Oliver Tambo, President of the ANC, whose speedy recovery we all look forward to. During your term of imprisonment, Oliver Tambo provided dynamic leadership for your organization and for the people of South Africa as a whole. Although he was leading a banned organization from outside the borders of his own country, he inspired your people with the hope that some day, a solution to the South African problem would be addressed.

10. The ANC has, throughout its history, advocated a peaceful settlement to the problem of South Africa. For many years this was rejected by successive white minority régimes. The persistence and unity of purpose of the ANC and other anti-apartheid organizations, backed by supreme sacrifice and self-denial, have finally borne fruit. This is self-evident as signified by the new thinking in the present Government of President de Klerk, which has given hope to a negotiated settlement.

11. Bagaetsho, it is now my pleasure to invite our distinguished guest to address you.

ANNEX II

Statement by the Vice-President of the African National Congress on the occasion of his visit to Botswana

I am honoured and privileged to share some of my thoughts with you on this historic occasion and in doing so I place on record the deep gratitude that the vast masses of South Africa owe to the Government and people of Botswana, our neighbour and trusted friend. I pay tribute to departed heroes of Botswana. Towering above them all is Seretse Kgama, first President of Botswana, and Professor Matthews, Pula, Botswana.

The past, the present and the future bind Botswana and South Africa together from the colonial days and the struggle for freedom which I am sure will eventually result in a powerful free democratic southern Africa. I visualize a southern Africa, great, prosperous, economically interdependent and making a great contribution to a rejuvenated Africa, playing its mighty role in the world.

Indeed destiny has bound us solidly together and it is that destiny that beckons us to the call of freedom, which we in South Africa so clearly articulated even before the African National Congress was founded in 1912 - 78 years ago. And history has recorded the great role of such outstanding Africans as Professor Z. K. Matthews in shaping the policies of the ANC and in giving my country the Freedom Charter, a historic document for the formulation of which Professor Matthews and I were among the 156 persons charged with high treason.

The generation that produced such leaders as Chief Albert John Luthuli and Professor Z. K. Matthews drew strength from the days of Dr. Seme, Reverend John Dube and their cofounders of the ANC. And we do the same today and pay tribute to them for their vision of a great and free Africa freed from the bondage of imperialism and neo-imperialism which had stultified the development of a whole continent and other parts of the world.

Botswana and South Africa have a proud past. And I add that Botswana and South Africa have a proud present because their people are bound by their peoples' dedication to the cause of non-racialism and to the cause of political and economic democracy. With that heritage we shall march together to a bright future where human dignity and merit will come into their own and ethical values fully restored.

Let me on this occasion say how proud we are in the role of Botswana at the United Nations, at the OAU and as a front-line State in solidly standing with the oppressed of South Africa in our long battle for freedom in which after long decades of non-violence against institutional violence we were reluctantly compelled to adopt armed struggle purely for self-defence. If we had not adopted the armed struggle as an integral part of our freedom strategy, I am certain that I would not be addressing you today. In great humility, I add that without the armed struggle, without the economic sanctions our internal struggle for liberation in South Africa would have faced unsurmountable difficulties.

It is the external pressure of sanctions, the armed struggle as a weapon of defence and the internal defiance against racism which has created the present climate which made possible the discussions within Pretoria on the removal of obstacles to negotiations.

I don't have to tell Botswana that the ANC and the oppressed of South Africa are dedicated to peace. The ANC wants a non-racial democratic South Africa with a more powerful economy than it has at present. We do not want to disrupt our economy; we want to improve and build it and save it from the harm already caused to it by apartheid. Increased productivity is our cherished aim.

We love South Africa. We respect and admire our neighbours who have emerged as free nations. We know that all the free nations surrounding us, including free Namibia, are built on the only sound democratic foundation of one person, one vote of equal value without preserving minority rights - a measure to extend white privileges. We in South Africa want no more but what is more important we want no less. We want our racial past to be forgotten and we want all black and white South Africans fully protected against any future emergence of racial domination. We are fully dedicated to a Bill of Rights guaranteeing each and every human being basic rights as South Africans have no racial labels.

It is proper and fitting that I on behalf of the ANC make our position clear to all at this start of the long journey of thanksgiving and rededication that will take me to so many different places in three different continents.

Botswana has no economic vested interests in South Africa which militate against her understanding our liberation struggle, its present strategies or its future political and economic policies.

But there are others who have for centuries benefited from the economic exploitation of South Africa, nay the whole of Africa which had come under imperialist domination. There are powerful economic forces, who remained silent and had no objections to nationalization by the whites of our railways, harbours, airways and Sasol and Iscor, and now in this period of transition regard nationalization as a horror and falsely present it as a new and disruptive concept. Their reactions do not come from their concern for the well-being of the people of southern Africa, but purely from greed, self-interest and continuing undeserved profits at the expense of the poor.

If they don't like the word "nationalism" let them not use it. Let them, however, not run away from the fact that in South Africa the vast masses have been denied resources to which they are entitled as their birthrights. A small white caste has appropriated for itself the bulk of our resources and we want ways and means of an equitable distribution of these resources so that all South Africans can share with equality. That is what the Freedom Charter is all about and that is what was high treason in the eyes of the rulers and thus the 1956 Treason Trial took place.

And now when President F. W. de Klerk has moved away in some measures from his own past, we categorically say to him and to the world that apartheid is not yet dead. It is alive. But the ANC is even more alive and is step by step ending apartheid. We have noted the changes that have taken place in South Africa and I have spoken of the courage of President de Klerk but a great task lies ahead of all of us before negotiations begin and apartheid ends.

That will be the time to bring cease-fire into existence, end sanctions and the armed struggle. If sanctions are now ended then this would be tantamount to stabbing the liberation struggle in the back. To end the armed struggle now would be an act of immaturity and not in the interest of the forces, black and white, now working for a genuine new South Africa - a South Africa of freedom, justice, peace and greater economic prosperity.

We have come to Botswana at the very beginning of our long journey to tell the world what we stand for. It is the right and correct beginning. Botswana is indeed an integral part of us. We want you to give us that encouragement today that you have given us as a people in the past. Mr. President, we in the name of the African National Congress and the people of South Africa greet you, your Government and the people of Botswana in the name of freedom. We want with your help to see South Africa emerge freed from racism and oppression so that like Botswana we can take our rightful place in a freed Africa and make our contribution to the peace and prosperity of the world. AFRICA MAYIBUYE.

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Item 35 of the preliminary list*
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-fifth year

Letter dated 6 June 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the Final Statement of the Emergency Arab Summit Conference held at Baghdad from 28 to 30 May 1990.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 35 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Abdul Amir A. AL-ANBARI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/45/50.

ANNEX

Final Statement adopted at the Emergency Arab Summit Conference held at Baghdad from 28 to 30 May 1990

At the kind invitation of His Excellency Mr. Saddam Hussein, President of the Republic of Iraq, Their Majesties, Their Excellencies and Their Highnesses the Kings, Presidents and Amirs of the Arab States held an extraordinary Summit Conference at Baghdad from 4 to 6 Dhu'lqa'dah A.H. 1410, corresponding to 28 to 30 May A.D. 1990.

The major rubric of the Conference

As its major topic, the Conference discussed the threats being made against pan-Arab national security and the adoption of the necessary measures to counter them.

Welcome for the establishment of the Republic of Yemen

At the commencement of its work, the Conference welcomed the establishment of the fraternal Republic of Yemen on 22 May 1990. It expressed its full support and backing for the Republic of Yemen and conveyed its sincere congratulations to the great Yemeni people and to its dedicated national leadership. The Conference views this unification as an embodiment of the principles of magnanimity, high-mindedness, sincerity and brotherliness, as an indication of the capacity and unlimited potential of the Arabs to overcome difficulties and obstacles and as a magnificent example that will stimulate the Arab nation to pursue the achievement of its legitimate aspirations for complete unity, progress, cultural advancement and the assertion of its liberal humanitarian mission.

Changes at the international level, and the unified Arab position

In the framework of an objective, comprehensive and thorough analysis aimed at the formulation of a joint Arab position thereon, the Conference conducted an evaluation of the current inter-Arab situation, the changes taking place in the international arena and the threats posed to pan-Arab national security. It considered their present and future impact on the Arab nation and on the rights of the people of Palestine and higher Arab interests in particular.

While welcoming moves towards international détente, co-operation among peoples, a halt to the arms race, the banishment of the spectre of devastating wars and the establishment of international peace and security on the foundation of a common balance of interests, mutual respect, sovereignty and independence, the Conference is fully conscious that these changes, with all their positive and negative consequences, make it more than ever essential for the Arab nation to rely on its own capacities in coping with direct threats to its national security and in dealing with a reshaped international environment in which the Arab nation must maintain a status appropriate to its long history and its cultural endowment.

The valiant Palestinian intifadah

With great pride, the Conference saluted the endurance of the Palestinian Arab people under brutal Israeli occupation, the escalation of the valiant Palestinian intifadah in confronting savage repression on the part of the Israeli authorities and the precious sacrifices made daily by the people of Palestine for the purpose of liberating its occupied homeland and establishing an independent State on its national soil and with its capital at Jerusalem under the leadership of its sole legitimate representative, the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The Conference stressed the need for all forms of material, political, governmental and popular support to be made available and for the strengthening of supporting activities at the national, regional and international levels in order to ensure the continuation and expansion of the intifadah and the achievement of its lofty goal of liberation, independence and sovereignty.

Jewish immigration to Palestine and the other occupied Arab territories

The Conference addressed itself to the grave dangers arising out of directed and organized Jewish immigration to Palestine and the other occupied Arab territories: its implicit violation of the rights of the Palestinian people in its territory and its homeland; the consequences that Zionism is planning for it to have with the goal of expelling that people from its national territory; and the perpetuation and expansion of Israeli occupation through stepped-up Israeli settlement activities and the expulsion of Palestinian citizens and the confiscation of their property and land for the absorption of Jewish immigrants with a view to realizing the so-called "Greater Israel" plan. That plan is confirmed by statements made by Israeli officials and by the new maps that they have proposed for the achievement of their well-known expansionist ambitions.

The Conference is fully convinced that the immigration of Soviet and other Jews to Palestine and the other occupied Arab territories is a fresh act of aggression against the rights of the Palestinian people, a grave danger to the Arab nation and a blatant violation of human rights, the principles of international law and the fourth Geneva Convention of 1949.

Jewish immigration as a danger to national security

The Conference affirms that this extensive and organized undertaking represents a grave threat to pan-Arab national security, that it demands to be addressed in that perspective and in a collective manner and that it requires that all necessary measures should be taken to protect the rights of the Palestinian people and pan-Arab national security.

Condemnation of Jewish immigration, and illegality of settlements

The Conference, strongly condemning the immigration of Jews to Palestine and the other occupied Arab territories, calls upon the States directly involved in that immigration in particular and on the international community in general to

take action for a speedy end to the Israeli immigration and settlement scheme. It calls for a guarantee of the national rights of the Palestinian people, including its right to return to its homeland in accordance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 194 (III) of 1948. It affirms the illegality of the establishment of Israeli settlements and the need for a halt to their construction, the dismantling of those that have been built and the creation of an international mechanism to monitor Israeli activities in this field.

The Conference further calls upon all States to refrain from providing any assistance or loans to the Israeli Government that might facilitate the settlement of immigrants in Palestine and the other occupied Arab territories.

Call for the formation of an international observer mission

The Conference stresses the need for a reappraisal of Arab relations with other States in the light of their positions on the issues of Palestinian national rights and Jewish immigration. The Conference calls upon the United Nations to meet its responsibilities, in accordance with the Charter, General Assembly and Security Council resolutions and the relevant international conventions, to ensure that Jewish immigrants are not settled in the Palestinian and other occupied Arab territories, including Jerusalem, and it calls for the formation of an international observer mission to ascertain that fact and for action to be taken for the adoption of a Security Council resolution to that effect.

Political efforts for the achievement of a just and comprehensive peace in the region

The Conference analysed the present conjuncture in the inter-Arab arena, and it reviewed the political efforts being made for the achievement of a just and comprehensive peace in the region. It expressed its conviction that escalating tension, which threatens to lead to an eruption, has its origin in the continuing Israeli occupation of Palestine and other Arab territories, the continuing denial to the Palestinian Arab people of its inalienable national rights and the continuing policies of aggression, intimidation and expansion pursued by the Israeli authorities. The Conference regards the United States of America as having prime responsibility for this situation, as the State which provides Israel with the military capacity, the financial assistance and the political cloak without which it would be unable to persist in such policies in defiance of the will of the international community.

The International Conference, the Palestinian peace initiative, and the resolutions of the Arab Summits

In its commitment to the Palestinian peace initiative and the resolutions adopted by the Arab Summits, in particular those held at Algiers in 1988 and Casablanca in 1989, the Conference affirms that the convening of the International Conference under the auspices of the United Nations and with the participation of all the parties to the conflict, including the Palestine Liberation Organization, on an equal footing, is now taking on an urgent and imperative character. The

Conference affirms the commitment of the Arab States to the belief that the question of Palestine represents the core of the Arab-Zionist conflict and that a just and lasting solution to the human tragedy of the Palestinian people and crisis in the region lies in ensuring the exercise of the inalienable national rights of that people, including the right to return, to exercise self-determination and to establish an independent Palestinian State with its capital at Jerusalem.

Acclamation of the endurance of the Lebanese and Palestinian masses in southern Lebanon

The Conference further acclaimed the endurance of the Palestinian masses alongside their Lebanese brothers in southern Lebanon and their participation in repulsing Israeli land, sea and air attacks against villages and Palestinian camps in the South.

Development of Arab relations with the States of Eastern Europe

Given the ongoing changes in the countries of Eastern Europe, the Conference recommended the reappraisal of Arab relations with those States in the light of the positions adopted by them on the question of Palestine and on the basis of mutual interests.

Expression of satisfaction at the outcome of the Euro-Arab Ministerial Meeting

The Conference expressed its satisfaction at the outcome of the Euro-Arab Ministerial Meeting held at the end of 1989. Member States decided to make an active contribution to the development of the Euro-Arab dialogue and to endeavour to promote it in order to strengthen relations of co-operation and friendship between the two groupings.

Growth of international support for the cause of Palestine

The Conference notes with satisfaction and appreciation that international support for the just cause of the people of Palestine is growing and that an increasing number of States have recognized the State of Palestine.

Condemnation of the positions adopted by the United States Congress

The Conference expresses its censure and condemnation of the positions of partiality and political protectionism adopted by the United States Congress and the large-scale military and economic support for Israel that characterizes its positions and resolutions, most recently the nugatory resolutions on Jerusalem and on support and funding for Jewish immigration, which encourage settlement in the occupied territories.

Jerusalem: capital of the State of Palestine

The Conference affirms the religious and political status of Jerusalem and considers it to be an integral part of Palestine and the capital of the State. It

rejects any encroachment on its religious and legal status as a flagrant violation of international conventions and resolutions.

The Conference endorses the decision of the Al-Quds Committee of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to hold an Islamic-Christian conference on the protection of Islamic and Christian Holy Places.

Condemnation of the United States Congress resolution on Jerusalem

In this connection, the Conference condemns the resolutions adopted by the United States Senate and House of Representatives. The Conference asserted in that regard that the Arab States would take political and economic measures against any State that considered Jerusalem to be the capital of Israel.

International protection for the Palestinian people

In the face of the persistence of the Israeli authorities in their heinous crimes against Palestinians, the Conference demands protection for the Palestinian people, under international supervision and United Nations auspices, against deliberately planned extermination and expulsion, as a preparatory step to the exercise of its right to self-determination and national independence.

The unified Arab position

The Conference is fully confident that rights can be safeguarded, the land protected and the Holy Places defended only through unanimity, the closing of ranks, unity of purpose, the strengthening of Arab solidarity, the settlement of inter-Arab differences, constant struggle by all possible means, the mobilization of all Arab capacities in the service of issues affecting the national destiny and energetic and effective action on all fronts and in all regional and international arenas.

On this occasion, the Conference records its deep gratitude to all States, organizations, bodies and personalities that have supported the national rights of the Palestinian people and the Arab nation, and it calls upon them for increased material and moral support for the promotion of justice and peace in the world and an end to Israel's arrogance and its inhuman practices.

Opposition to United States attempts to have the resolution equating zionism with racism rescinded

The Conference strongly opposed the United States attempts to have General Assembly resolution 3379 (XXX) rescinded, namely the resolution determining that zionism is a form of racism and racial discrimination. It called for intensified efforts to thwart those attempts.

Threats and hostile campaigns against Iraq

The Conference accorded great attention to the threats, hostile and biased political and media campaigns and scientific and technical boycott measures to which Iraq is being subjected as well as to the dangers that they pose to the sovereignty of a State member of the League of Arab States and their impact on pan-Arab national security.

Active Arab solidarity with Iraq

The Conference, affirming its commitment to the Pact of the League of Arab States and to the Joint Defence and Economic Co-operation Treaty between the States of the Arab League, strongly condemns those threats and hostile campaigns and measures, affirms its active solidarity with fraternal Iraq and cautions against the continuation of campaigns which have the aim of impinging on its sovereignty and encroaching on its national security with a view to preparing and facilitating aggression against it.

Iraq's right to ensure and protect its national security

The Conference affirms Iraq's right to take all necessary measures to ensure and protect its national security and to provide itself with the prerequisites for development, including the possession of advanced scientific and technological equipment and its utilization for internationally lawful purposes.

The Conference further affirms the right of Iraq and of all Arab States to legitimate self-defence in response to aggression by whatever means they deem appropriate in order to ensure their security and sovereignty.

Solidarity with Jordan in strengthening its resolute stand

Fully aware of the organic link between national security and pan-Arab national security, and in appreciation of the steadfast and constant stance of Jordan on the longest lines of confrontation with the enemy, the Conference condemns Israel's settlement policy and its expansionist schemes, including the plan to settle new Jewish immigrants in the occupied Arab territories, which represent a direct threat to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and are thus a menace to the Arab nation and constitute aggression against it.

Support for Jordan

The Conference affirms its full commitment to the defence and protection of the national security of Jordan as an integral part of the national security of the Arab nation. Support for Jordan, solidarity with it and provision of the assistance required if it is to maintain its steadfastness are a national duty, given that it is a forward base of the Arab nation that protects its borders, defends its existence and helps to ward off the dangers threatening it. The Conference decided that support should be provided to Jordan through bilateral consultations so as to enable it to consolidate its steadfast position and

strengthen its capacities in all fields, thereby providing a basic prop for the Palestinian cause, support to the blessed Palestinian intifadah and assistance to the Palestinian people in its steadfast adherence to its occupied land.

Condemnation of the United States threats against Libya

The Conference condemned United States threats to use force against the great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and denounced the extension by the United States Administration of the economic blockade against it. It calls for the blockade to be lifted. The Conference affirmed the right of the great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to acquire modern technology for the achievement of development and progress. In its commitment to the Pact of the League of Arab States and the Joint Defence and Economic Co-operation Treaty between the States of the Arab League, and in an endeavour to strengthen the foundations of international peace and security, the Conference renewed its solidarity with the great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya in coping with the economic blockade and the United States threats.

Solidarity with the Sudan and Somalia

With a view to strengthening security and stability in the Horn of Africa, the Conference affirmed its active and fraternal solidarity with the Sudan and Somalia against any threat to the national integrity of their territories or peoples.

Acclaim for the independence of Namibia

The Conference, acclaiming the independence of Namibia and the release of the African leader Nelson Mandela, and commending the struggle of the African peoples against apartheid and for freedom and progress, affirms the convergence of the Afro-Arab struggle and the closeness of Afro-Arab co-operation. It cautions against the danger for the security of Arabs and Africans alike of the wide-ranging co-operation between the racist régimes in Tel Aviv and Pretoria, particularly in the nuclear weapons field.

Afro-Arab co-operation

The Conference called for action to stimulate Afro-Arab co-operation by means of close collaboration between the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States and the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, in consultation with the specialized organizations and institutions of LAS and OAU, in the implementation of the projects already approved by the Standing Committee on Afro-Arab Co-operation.

Developments in the situation between Iraq and Iran

The Conference reviewed developments in the situation between Iraq and Iran and the continued suffering and concern of the prisoners of war and their families despite the cessation of active hostilities on the entry into force of the cease-fire on 20 August 1988. The Conference noted with great satisfaction the

peace initiatives taken by Iraq, most recently the peace message addressed by Mr. Saddam Hussein, President of the Republic of Iraq, to the Iranian leadership.

Resolution 598 (1987) as a comprehensive peace plan, and ensuring the rights of Iraq and its sovereignty over the Shatt al-Arab

The Conference, reaffirming its resolution 182 adopted at Casablanca, calls for continued efforts for the achievement of a comprehensive and lasting peace between Iraq and Iran on the basis of Security Council resolution 598 (1987), as a comprehensive peace plan, and of the agreement of 8 August 1988. This should be done by means of direct negotiations under the auspices of the United Nations so as to guarantee the rights of Iraq and its sovereignty over its territory, particularly its historic right to sovereignty over the Shatt al-Arab, non-intervention in its internal affairs, the security of the Arabian Gulf and the freedom of shipping in international waters.

Release of prisoners of war

The Conference called for stepped-up efforts to be made at the various levels for the release of prisoners of war on both sides and their immediate repatriation, in implementation of the provisions of Security Council resolution 598 (1987) and the third Geneva Convention of 1949, as an issue of an independent legal and humanitarian character. It calls upon the United Nations, upon all international, regional, governmental and non-governmental organizations and bodies and upon the High Contracting Parties to the third Geneva Convention to meet their responsibilities and to take all the political and other measures in their power for the speedy release of the Iraqi and Iranian prisoners of war.

The Lebanese crisis

The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Fahd Bin Abdul-Aziz of Saudi Arabia, on behalf of his colleagues, His Majesty King Hassan II of Morocco and His Excellency Mr. Chadi Bendjedid, President of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, addressed a letter to the Arab leaders transmitting the report prepared by the High-level Arab Tripartite Committee. The report contained an evaluation by the three leaders of the current situation in Lebanon and their recommendations on the steps to be taken to promote the implementation of the Taif Agreement and strengthen Lebanese legitimacy. In that light, the Conference discussed the various dimensions of the Lebanese crisis and their repercussions on Lebanon and on the Arab nation as a whole. It further reviewed the steps and measures that had been taken in Lebanon since the signing of the Charter of National Reconciliation following the meetings held by the Lebanese deputies at Taif under the auspices of the Tripartite Committee. Accordingly, the Conference expressed its deep pain at the bloody events taking place in Lebanon and its concern at the suffering of the Lebanese people. It affirmed that fighting was not a solution to the Lebanese crisis and could only further complicate and prolong it, would have an adverse impact on the integrity of the State, its people and its institutions, and would impede the process of recovery, reconciliation and peace. The Arab Summit was anxious for that process to continue so that it could bring an end to the tragedy

and restore security, stability and prosperity to the country. It also expressed its deep grief that there were obstacles to the peace and reconciliation process begun by the adoption of the Charter of National Reconciliation, and it stressed its continued support for the legitimate Lebanese authorities and its unconditional readiness to do all in its power to bring an end to the Lebanese tragedy.

The Conference further condemned the repeated acts of aggression carried out by Israel against Lebanese territory and expressed its great admiration for the endurance of citizens in occupied southern Lebanon who valiantly continued to resist Israeli occupation and repeated Zionist acts of aggression against their land. In this context, the Conference called upon the international community to take action for the implementation of the Security Council resolutions calling for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanese territory, in particular resolution 425 (1978).

The Conference also affirmed that the Taif Agreement was the appropriate framework for safeguarding the interests of all Lebanese without exception and that it represented the way in which Lebanon could be extricated from continued violence and security and peace achieved.

In that connection, the Conference requested the Tripartite Committee to endeavour to follow up the implementation of the Taif Agreement. It affirmed its continued support for the efforts of the Committee and its readiness to do all that the peace process in Lebanon might require so that that fraternal country could regain its unity and independence and so that the authority and sovereignty of the Lebanese State could be extended over all Lebanese territory.

The Conference further decided to call for the establishment of an international fund to assist Lebanon and enable it to revive its institutions, operate its public services, rebuild its infrastructure and help it in its efforts to reconstruct and reinvigorate its economic structures. It called upon the international community to participate actively in that fund.

The scientific and cultural challenge

The Conference recognizes that the greatest challenge facing the Arab nation in the last decade of the twentieth century is the scientific and cultural challenge of securing a stake in the future and making an active contribution once again to the enrichment of human civilization on a basis of international understanding founded on tolerance, friendship and peaceful co-operation.

The right of the Arab nation to use science and technology freely

Given the inalienable right of peoples to full development and to the utilization of the achievements of science and technology in the service of mankind, the Conference affirms the inalienable right of the Arab nation to development and to the utilization of science and technology for the benefit of Arab citizens and all mankind.

Lifting of the scientific and technical embargo on the Arab nation

The Conference rejects all policies aimed at impeding the scientific and technological progress of the Arab nation as hostile acts incompatible with the legitimate human right of the Arabs to ensure for themselves a fitting, modern and civilized life in such a way as to ensure peace, security and stability. It points out that any individual or collective measures taken against any Arab country or countries that impose special restrictions inhibiting the transfer of technology to any such country will make it necessary for appropriate pan-Arab positions of solidarity to be adopted in order to preserve Arab interests.

The Conference further calls upon the developed countries to facilitate the transfer of technology to the Arab States on an equal footing with other nations and in a manner in keeping with the mutual interests of the Arab States and the countries in question.

Elimination of weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East region

The Arab States, while supporting international efforts for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction with a view to ensuring peace and normal human life, which efforts have only been successful in the context of serious endeavours for the peaceful settlement of disputes and the reduction of international tension, affirms that such a process in the Middle East region must be based on the complete elimination of all weapons of mass destruction in the region and not of one type of weapon alone. It must also take place in the framework of a comprehensive and just settlement to the conflict in the region, and it must be accompanied by equal access to technology, including nuclear technology for peaceful purposes and conventional weapons, for all parties in the region without discrimination and without partiality towards any of the parties to the conflict.

The Conference points out that focusing on the elimination of only one type of weapon of mass destruction in the Middle East region means, in essence, the adoption of a selective approach for the region.

Appraisal of the role of the League

The Conference affirmed its pride in the national role performed by the League of Arab States, the primary national institution, which provided a comprehensive institutional framework for joint Arab action. It stressed the need to strengthen its effectiveness, to reinforce its organs, to provide the necessary resources for the implementation of its programmes of action, to co-ordinate its work with that of other Arab regional groupings and to consolidate its links with international and regional organizations.

Amendment of the Pact of the League

The Conference decided to request the Arab Ministers for Foreign Affairs to complete the procedures for the amendment of the Pact of the League of Arab States and to submit their recommendations to the next Summit Conference, to be held in the Arab Republic of Egypt.

The Conference reviewed the "Draft Charter of the Arab Union", submitted by Libya, and it was of the view that that document should be considered as a draft amendment to the Pact of the League of Arab States.

Periodicity of Summit Conferences

The Conference decided that the Arab Summit Conferences should be held on a regular annual basis in November each year.

It further decided that the next regular Summit should be held in the Arab Republic of Egypt in November 1990.

Monitoring of Jewish immigration, and the Arab position with regard to international economic groupings

In view of the importance of monitoring Jewish immigration and of the Arab position with regard to international economic groupings, the Conference decided to invite the Arab Ministers for Foreign Affairs and the Arab Ministers of Economic Affairs and Finance to hold an urgent meeting, within two months, in order to examine those two issues, and submit the necessary recommendations on modalities for dealing with them to the next Summit, and likewise to study the encouragement of Arab investment in the Arab world.

Great appreciation for the role of President Saddam Hussein in the success of the Conference

The Conference expressed its great appreciation to His Excellency Mr. Saddam Hussein, President of the Republic of Iraq, for the valuable efforts he had made to ensure the success of the Conference and the sagacity with which he had conducted its meetings. It had thus achieved important results which would assist in strengthening joint Arab action and protecting pan-Arab national security.

The Conference also expressed its deep gratitude to Iraq for hosting the Conference and for its smooth organization and meticulous preparation. The Conference pays tribute to the combatant people of Iraq and conveys to it its sincere congratulations on the clear victory it has achieved in defence of the sovereignty and dignity of the Arab people at the Eastern gateway of its mighty homeland.